

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUITO 08966 282226Z  
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07  
NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 AID-05 /057 W  
-----282230Z 014536 /62

P R 282135Z DEC 76  
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2659  
INFO DIA WASHDC  
USCINCSO QUARRY HTZ CZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 8966

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MORG, PINT, EC  
SUBJECT: DISMISSAL OF GENERAL SOLON ESPINOSA FROM ECUADOREAN ARMY

1. MINISTRY OF DEFENSE TODAY, DEC. 28, CONFIRMED THAT BRIG.  
GEN. SOLON ESPINOSA, COMMANDANT OF THE ARMY WAR ACADEMY, HAS  
BEEN FORCIBLY RETIRED (DADA BE BAJA) FROM THE ECUADOREAN ARMY.

2. ESPINOSA'S DISMISSAL FOLLOWS CLOSELY UPON ARMY COMMANDANT  
GENERAL DURAN'S ATTEMPT TO REMOVE ESPINOSA FROM HIS WAR  
ACADEMY POSITION AND NAME HIM TO A LESS-DESIRABLE CABINET  
MINISTRY. REPORTS INDICATE THAT ESPINOSA IN RESPONSE UNSUC-  
CESSFULLY ATTEMPTED TO GARNER SUPPORT TO REPLACE DURAN AND  
PERHAPS TO BECOME CHIEF OF STATE. ESPINOSA'S FORCED RETIRE-  
MENT FROM THE ARMY IS CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE THAT HIS ATTEMPT  
FAILED AND LEADS TO THE CONCLUSION THAT GENERAL DURAN HAS  
SURVIVED THIS SCUFFLE WITH RELATIVELY INCREASED STRENGTH WITH-  
IN THE ARMY.

3. COMMENT: IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT ESPINOSA WAS NOT MERELY  
REMOVED FROM HIS POSITION AND PLACED IN "DISPONIBILIDAD,"  
A SITUATION WHICH WOULD HAVE ALLOWED HIM TO REMAIN IN  
THE ARMY FOR SIX MONTHS WITHOUT A SPECIFIC ASSIGNMENT AND  
WHICH WOULD HAVE ALLOWED HIM TO CONTINUE POLITICKING WITHIN  
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THE ARMY.  
BLOOMFIELD

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY PERSONNEL, GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES, PERSONNEL SEPARATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 DEC 1976  
**Decapton Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decapton Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** blochd0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976QUITO08966  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760474-0450  
**From:** QUITO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 57  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** blochd0  
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**Review Date:** 23 JUL 2004  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** DISMISSAL OF GENERAL SOLON ESPINOSA FROM ECUADOREAN ARMY  
**TAGS:** MORG, PINT, EC, (ESPINOSA, SOLON)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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